

## FAMILY.—SCIÆNIDÆ.

OTOLITHUS ANALIS. *Jen.*

This new species of *Otolithus* is from Callao: it was omitted to be noticed in the body of the work. There is but one specimen in the collection, in bad condition, and not admitting of a very detailed description; but it is evidently distinct from all the species described by Cuvier and Valenciennes.

It is rather more elongated than the *O. Guatucupa*, the depth being not much more than one-fifth of the entire length. The head is long, and contained three and a half times in the same. The lower jaw is considerably the longest. The teeth above are small, and sharp-pointed, apparently in two rows, the outer row being a little stronger than the inner: there are two very strong canines in front, springing from between the rows. Below, the teeth are in two rows in front, and one at the sides; those in front small, but those at the sides unequally sized, three or four, standing at intervals, being much stronger than the others, and very sharp. Diameter of the eye about one-sixth the length of the head; its distance from the end of the snout one diameter and a half.

The lateral line is continued to the extremity of the caudal, between the ninth and tenth rays. There is a small interval between the two dorsal fins. The second dorsal, as well as the anal, are longer than in the *O. Guatucupa*, with more soft rays, especially the anal. The pectorals are narrow and pointed, and between one-half and two-thirds the length of the head. The ventrals are attached almost exactly beneath the pectorals. The caudal appears to have been square.

D. 9—1/24; A. 1/16; P. 17; V. 1/5.

Length 12 inches.

COLOUR.—The colours were not noticed when recent, and can hardly be judged of now. The general tint appears to have been silvery. If there were any markings, no traces of them remain.

Habitat, Callao, Peru.

This species has a longer anal than any of the American species described by Cuvier and Valenciennes. I have in consequence named it *analys*.

## PRIONODES FASCIATUS. p. 47.

It has been suggested that this may be nothing more than a monstrosity. Whether this be really the fact or not, can only be determined by the examination of more specimens. But in either case, I am so satisfied now of its being a *Serranus* in all its essential characters, that I conceive it never can be placed in a different family from that genus. If the fact be established of its never possessing vomerine and palatine teeth, such a character can, at the very utmost, serve only to distinguish it as a subgenus in that group. But every day is bringing more and more to light the small value of that character.

## STEGASTES IMBRICATUS. p. 63.

I am informed by Mr. Lowe, of Madeira, that this is the same as the *Glyphisodon luridus* of Cuvier and Valenciennes.\* Their description is so short, that I failed to recognize it; and I was induced to consider it as a new genus from the circumstance of its possessing vomerine teeth. Whether these teeth exist in any other species, or have only been presumed absent in all, because not found in some, I am not aware. But here again we see how little such a character is to be depended upon.

## FAMILY.—BLENNIDÆ.

Mr. Darwin's collection contains two new forms from South America, closely allied to each other, yet forming distinct genera, and which will not enter into any of those described by authors. At first it was conceived that they were Malacopterygian fishes, more especially from their having all the rays in the dorsal and anal fins articulated; and to belong to the Apodal division of that group, from their being supposed to be without ventrals; but, on a closer inspection, the ventrals, which are very small, were found to have been overlooked, and it was evident altogether that the true place of these fishes in the system was amongst the *Blennidæ*. The mention of this circumstance will explain why they were omitted to be noticed in their proper place.

These two genera, so far as can be judged from the situations in which Mr. Darwin obtained them, have the same habits as the Blennies, lurking under stones and weeds; and I propose to give them respectively the names of *Iluocætes* and *Phucocætes*.

GENUS.—ILUOCÆTES.\* *Jen.*

*Corpus elongatum, antice subcylindricum, postice compressum, ensiforme, læve, nudum, alepidotum. Rostrum breve, obtusum, rotundatum, ultra maxillam inferiorem productum. Dentes acuti, subconici, in utraq[ue] maxillâ uniseriati: supra canini duo fortes, curvati, antici, et præ serie exstantes: in vomere dentes pauci acuti aggregati; in utroque palatino uniseriati. Lingua lævis. Oculi grandes, prominuli. Apertura branchialis mediocriter fissa, membranâ quinque-radiatâ. Maxillæ, os suborbitale, et præoperculum, tubiporis cutaneis brevibus ad margines fimbriatæ. Pinne ventrales jugulares, minutæ, gracillissimæ, triradiatæ. Pinne dorsalis et analis prælongæ, caudali coalescentes, radiis omnibus articulatis.*

If I am right in placing this new genus amongst the *Blennidæ*, it will evidently take its place next to *Zoarces*, to which it is more nearly allied than to any other

\* *Hist. des Poiss.* tom. 5. p. 356.

† *Ab ὀλὸς limus, et κοίτη cubile.*